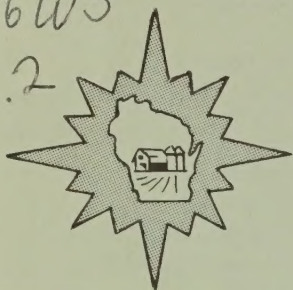


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WISCONSIN *Farm Reporter*

- Dairy
- Crops
- Livestock

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November 1975

Cream of the News

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers for October are expected to average a record high of \$9.05 a hundredweight.

The Nation's butter production for September was down 11 percent from the previous year but Wisconsin creameries showed little change.

Wholesale prices of dairy products continued to establish new records during October.

Milk production on Wisconsin farms in October was up nearly 3 percent from a year earlier as production per cow increased by 20 pounds.

Cold storage stocks of dairy products and meat in the Nation at the end of October remained well below a year earlier.

Beef production in Wisconsin during September was 9 percent above a year ago but output of pork was down 10 percent.

Feeder pig prices in Wisconsin averaged a record high of \$49.40 per head for the October quarter.

Fertilizer consumption in Wisconsin for the year ending June 30, 1975 was down 9 percent from a year earlier as high fertilizer prices resulted in reduced usage.

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers as of mid-October was up 15 percentage points from September, the seventh consecutive monthly increase.

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market declined sharply in the last half of October.

The average moisture content of Wisconsin corn as of mid-October was 25.7 percent, the lowest since records on corn moisture were started in 1965.

Excellent fall harvesting weather enabled Wisconsin farmers to complete nearly all of their crop harvest by mid-November except for a little corn.

Based on weekly estimates for October, Wisconsin's production of American cheese was higher than a year ago for the first time since October 1974.

We are Thankful...

The Thanksgiving season is an opportune time to pause and offer thanks for the many blessings of the past year. This has been a better crop year for most farmers and the excellent fall weather was very conducive to harvesting the crops. Our Nation's abundant harvest has meant more food available for export to less fortunate countries while maintaining an adequate supply for domestic needs. Food makes an important contribution to world peace and tranquility.

The Wisconsin Statistical Reporting Service would especially like to take this opportunity to say thank you to the many volunteer reporters who provide basic data for agricultural estimates on crops, livestock, prices, and other items. The support of these reporters is vital to a reliable program of statistics for the benefit of everyone involved in Wisconsin agriculture. May this holiday season be celebrated in a spirit of joy, peace, and harmony among all people.

Sincerely yours,

H. M. Walters

H. M. Walters

Agricultural Statistician
in Charge

OCTOBER MILK PRODUCTION 3 PERCENT ABOVE YEAR AGO

Milk production on Wisconsin farms during October totaled 1,464 million pounds, an increase of nearly 3 percent from a year ago. Better fall pastures, good quality third crop hay, and increased feeding of grain and concentrates were the main reasons for a higher milk output per cow. Production per cow averaged 810 pounds in October, up 20 pounds from October 1974. Milk production increased seasonally 4 percent from September to October compared with a gain of

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2 percent for those months last year. During the first ten months of 1975, milk production in Wisconsin was about one half percent above the same period in 1974.

Milk Production

Selected States	October 1974	October 1975	Jan.-Oct. 1975	Change from last year	
				October	Jan.-Oct.
	Million pounds			Percent	
Wisconsin	1,426	1,464	15,716	+ 3	n.c.
Minnesota	625	611	7,598	- 2	- 5
Iowa	294	293	3,289	n.c.	- 2
New York	775	807	8,454	+ 4	+ 2
Pennsylvania . . .	571	566	5,879	- 1	n.c.
California	889	914	9,058	+ 3	+ 1
Other states . . .	4,545	4,550	47,388	n.c.	n.c.
United States . .	9,125	9,205	97,382	+ 1	n.c.

MILK PRICES AT RECORD HIGH

Milk prices received by Wisconsin farmers during October are expected to average a record high of \$9.05 a hundredweight, up 28 cents from September and \$1.51 above last year. This was the seventh consecutive month of higher milk prices. Milk prices have increased by \$1.58 a hundredweight since March 1975.

Milk Prices 1/

Selected States	August 1975		September price per cwt.			October 1975 price per cwt. 2/
	Price per cwt.	Average test	1974	1975	75/74 change	
	Dollars	Percent	Dollars	Dollars	Percent	
Milk for all uses						
Wisconsin	8.10	3.61	7.23	8.77	+ 21	9.05
Minnesota	7.67	3.54	6.90	8.25	+ 20	8.68
Iowa	7.90	3.53	7.15	8.55	+ 20	8.90
New York	9.00	3.51	8.38	9.70	+ 16	10.20
California	8.46	3.48	8.35	8.70	+ 4	9.30
United States	8.56	3.53	8.07	9.16	+ 14	9.53
Wis. utilization						
Market milk	8.18	3.60	7.40	8.82	+ 19	xxx
Manufacturing milk	7.98	3.63	6.97	8.70	+ 25	xxx
Creameries	7.93	3.61	6.94	8.68	+ 25	xxx
Cheese factories . .	7.99	3.63	6.98	8.70	+ 25	xxx
Varied prod. plants	7.90	3.62	6.94	8.68	+ 25	xxx

1/Preliminary average buying prices received for milk of average test. They differ from basic buying prices which are for 3.5% milk. 2/Based on preliminary information for milk of average test.

— PUBLISHED MONTHLY —

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This publication is free upon request to the Wisconsin Statistical Reporting Service, Box 9160, Madison, Wisconsin 53715.

Wisconsin 3.5 Test Milk Prices 1/

Utilization	Sept. 1974	August 1975	Sept. 1975 2/	Change from last year
	Dollars per cwt.			Percent
Milk for all uses	6.78	7.85	8.14	+ 20
Market milk	6.93	7.95	8.21	+ 18
Manufacturing milk	6.55	7.69	8.04	+ 23
Creameries	6.51	7.69	8.08	+ 24
American cheese plants	6.51	7.67	8.01	+ 23
Varied products plants	6.48	7.64	8.06	+ 24
Federal Order Markets				
Chicago Regional Base Zone . . .	7.16	8.07	8.53	+ 19

1/Computed equivalents. 2/Preliminary.

The September milk price of \$8.77 a hundredweight was 67 cents more than the previous month and \$1.54 above a year earlier. Milkfat content for September averaged 3.77 percent compared with 3.74 percent in September 1974.

Grade A milk producers received an average of \$8.82 a hundredweight for September, a gain of 64 cents from August and \$1.42 higher than the previous year. Manufacturing grade milk, at \$8.70 a hundredweight in September, was 72 cents above August and \$1.73 greater than last year. The price spread between market and manufacturing grade milk was 12 cents in September compared with 43 cents a year earlier.

WHOLESALE DAIRY PRICES CONTINUE TO INCREASE

Wholesale prices of dairy products continued to establish new records during October. The 92-score butter price at New York averaged 95.04 cents a pound for October, an increase of 5 cents from a month earlier and nearly 24½ cents above last year. Wholesale butter prices have risen by almost 28 cents a pound during 1975.

Cheddar cheese in 40 pound blocks averaged about 99 cents a pound at Wisconsin assembly points in October, up 5 cents from September and 20½ cents higher than a year ago. Wholesale prices of cheddar cheese have increased every month during 1975.

Swiss cheese, Wisconsin State Brand, averaged over \$1.22 a pound for October, a gain of about 5 cents from the previous month and more than 20 cents above October 1974.

Wholesale Dairy Prices

Commodity	October 1974	September 1975	October 1975 1/
Butter, 92-score, New York, pound . .	70.63¢	90.04¢	95.04¢
Cheese, Cheddars, Wisconsin primary markets, 40 lb. blocks, pound 2/ . .	78.47¢	94.00¢	98.95¢
Cheese, Swiss, Wisconsin State Brand, block pound 2/	102.25¢	117.56¢	122.50¢
Evaporated milk, North Central States, case, 48-14½ oz. cans, range	\$11.70-12.50	\$12.35-12.90	\$ — — —
Nonfat dry milk solids, spray, Chicago area, pound	56.91¢	64.08¢	68.29¢

1/Preliminary estimates. 2/Selling prices, f.o.b. at Wisconsin assembly points.

NATION'S BUTTER PRODUCTION DOWN 11 PERCENT FROM YEAR AGO

Butter production in the Nation during September was 11 percent below a year ago. Wisconsin creameries produced about the same amount of butter as in September 1974. Output of butter in California during September was up 2

percent from last year but Minnesota had a decline of 18 percent and all other states were down 17 percent.

The Nation's cheese production for September was comparable to a year earlier. Declines of 8 percent for American, 5 percent for Swiss, and 4 percent for Brick and Muenster were offset by increases of 18 percent for Italian and 7 percent for all other varieties.

Wisconsin dairy plants manufactured 49½ million pounds of American cheese during September, down 3 percent from the previous year. Although Minnesota showed a gain of 5 percent, production of American cheese in Iowa was down 23 percent from September 1974 and all other states had a decline of 14 percent.

Current Dairy Products Estimates

Item and area	Sept. 1974	Sept. 1975	January - September 1975	Change from last year	
				Sept.	Jan.-Sept.
	1,000 pounds			Percent	
BUTTER					
Wisconsin	12,822	12,800	159,800	n. c.	+ 9
Minnesota	13,944	11,400	177,320	- 18	- 3
California	9,914	10,100	98,220	+ 2	+ 2
Other states	27,252	22,693	325,736	- 17	+ 6
United States	63,932	56,993	761,156	- 11	+ 4
CHEESE, AMERICAN					
Wisconsin	51,071	49,500	554,900	- 3	- 9
Minnesota	17,262	18,100	192,520	+ 5	- 6
Iowa	6,121	4,700	58,300	- 23	- 36
Other states	50,533	43,286	485,546	- 14	- 18
United States	124,987	115,586	1,291,266	- 8	- 13
CHEESE, MISCELLANEOUS					
United States					
Swiss	14,408	13,643	132,224	- 5	- 3
Brick and Muenster . .	6,325	6,089	57,352	- 4	+ 4
Italian	48,805	57,372	486,263	+ 18	+ 8
All other	19,032	20,342	161,157	+ 7	+ 6
Total	88,570	97,446	836,996	+ 10	+ 6
ALL CHEESE					
United States	213,557	213,032	2,128,262	n. c.	- 7
OTHER PRODUCTS					
Cottage Cheese					
United States					
Curd 1/	54,995	58,756	539,609	+ 7	+ 2
Creamed 2/	68,841	72,247	677,538	+ 5	+ 3
	1,000 gallons			Percent	
Ice Cream					
Wisconsin	1,548	1,250	12,950	- 19	n. c.
Illinois	3,872	4,300	35,130	+ 11	+ 2
Iowa	817	1,040	8,455	+ 27	+ 18
Michigan	3,114	3,355	30,495	+ 8	+ 13
Minnesota	2,233	2,230	22,100	n. c.	n. c.
Other states	58,217	63,380	551,923	+ 9	+ 9
United States	69,801	75,555	661,053	+ 8	+ 8

1/Includes cottage, pot, and bakers' cheese with a milkfat content of less than 4 percent. 2/Includes cheese with a milkfat content of 4 to 19 percent.

STATE'S BUTTER AND CHEESE OUTPUT ABOVE OCTOBER 1974

Based on weekly estimates for October, Wisconsin's production of butter and American cheese will be above a year ago but the National output will continue lower. This would be the first time in a year that Wisconsin's production of American cheese was higher than the previous year. The State's American cheese output for January through September was 9 percent under that period in 1974. Nationally, production of American cheese for October is expected to be 3 percent below a year earlier, following a decline of 13 percent for January through September.

Creameries in Wisconsin increased butter production

substantially during October compared with a year ago. Butter churnings in the State for the first nine months of this year were up 9 percent from that period last year. The National butter production in October was down about 4 percent from a year earlier but output during January through September was up 4 percent.

Recent Changes in Butter and Cheese Output

Periods	Butter			American Cheese		
	United States		Wisconsin	United States		Wisconsin
	Production 1975	Change from last year	Change from last year	Production 1975	Change from last year	Change from last year
	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent	1,000 lbs.	Percent	Percent
September	56,993	- 11	n. c.	115,586	- 8	- 3
Jan.-Sept.	761,156	+ 4	+ 9	1,291,266	- 13	- 9
Weeks ending:						
Oct. 9	15,130	- 5	+ 19	27,350	- 8	+ 3
Oct. 16	15,040	- 6	+ 14	27,300	- 3	n. c.
Oct. 23	16,000	n. c.	+ 23	27,200	- 1	+ 3
Oct. 30	15,360	- 3	+ 5	28,000	+ 2	+ 4
Total	61,530	- 4	xxx	109,850	- 3	xxx

PRICES RECEIVED INDEX CONTINUES TO INCREASE

The index of prices received by Wisconsin farmers as of mid-October was up 15 points (2.6 percent) from September, the seventh consecutive monthly increase. At a record high of 593 percent of the 1910-14 base, the prices received index was 104 points (21.3 percent) above a year earlier. Higher prices for milk and most meat animals offset declines for poultry and crops.

Hog prices averaged a record high of \$59.30 a hundredweight in mid-October, a gain of \$2.00 from September and \$24.00 higher than a year ago.

Milk cows for herd replacements averaged \$460.00 each in October, up \$5.00 from the previous month but \$40.00 under last year. Calves increased \$1.60 from September to October but at \$33.00 a hundredweight were \$1.90 below October 1974.

Steers and heifers averaged \$41.40 a hundredweight on October 15, down \$1.20 from a month earlier but almost \$10.00 above the previous year. Slaughter cows, at \$22.10 a hundredweight for October, were 70 cents more than September and \$3.10 higher than October 1974.

Prices Received by Wisconsin Farmers

Commodity	Unit	October 15, 1973	October 15, 1974	Sept. 15, 1975	October 15, 1975
		Dollars			
Milk cows	Head	620.00	500.00	455.00	460.00
Steers and heifers . .	Cwt.	42.00	30.50	42.60	41.40
Cows	Cwt.	34.00	19.00	21.40	22.10
Calves	Cwt.	67.00	34.90	31.40	33.00
Hogs	Cwt.	39.90	35.30	57.30	59.30
Sheep	Cwt.	11.50	5.60	8.30	8.10
Lambs	Cwt.	28.80	31.50	38.50	39.50
Chickens 1/	Lb.	.220	.105	.135	.145
Turkeys	Lb.	.380	.310	.380	.370
Eggs	Doz.	.580	.492	.470	.450
Corn	Bu.	2.15	3.58	2.82	2.71
Wheat	Bu.	4.06	4.35	3.48	3.43
Oats	Bu.	1.15	1.59	1.37	1.33
Soybeans	Bu.	5.70	8.10	5.14	4.91
Alfalfa hay, baled . .	Ton	29.00	31.50	53.50	54.00

1/Excludes broilers.

Sheep declined 20 cents from September to October but lambs increased by \$1.00. The mid-October average of \$8.10 a hundredweight for sheep was \$2.50 above last year, while lambs at \$39.50 a hundredweight were \$8.00 more than a year earlier.

Turkeys averaged 37 cents a pound liveweight in October, down 1 cent from September but 6 cents higher than a year ago. Eggs averaged 45 cents a dozen on October 15, a decline of 2 cents from the previous month and 4 cents under last year.

Corn prices averaged \$2.71 a bushel as of mid-October, down 11 cents from September and 87 cents below the record high of October 1974. Wheat declined 5 cents from September to October. At \$3.43 a bushel, wheat was 92 cents less than on October 15, 1974.

Oats averaged \$1.33 a bushel in October, a decline of 4 cents from the previous month and 26 cents below last year. Soybeans, at \$4.91 a bushel as of mid-October, were 23 cents lower than September and well below the price of \$8.10 for October 1974.

Baled alfalfa hay reached a record high of \$54.00 a ton in October, a gain of 50 cents from a month earlier and \$22.50 more than a year ago.

FERTILIZER CONSUMPTION DOWN IN WISCONSIN

Fertilizer consumption in Wisconsin during the year ended June 30, 1975 was estimated at 947,182 tons, a decline of 9 percent from a year earlier. High fertilizer prices contributed to a reduced usage. Fertilizer consumption represents all commercial fertilizer tonnages sold or shipped for farm and non-farm use as fertilizer. Materials used in the manufacture of registered mixes or for uses other than fertilizer are excluded.

Total Fertilizer, Consumption by Kind
Wisconsin, Years ended June 30, 1970-75 1/

Year	Mixtures	Direct-application material 2/		Total	
		Primary nutrient	Secondary and micro-nutrient	Quantity	Change from previous year
	Tons				Percent
1970 ..	384,846	461,579	294	846,719	+ 2
1971 ..	411,874	488,931	1,056	901,861	+ 7
1972 ..	407,386	533,665	1,138	942,189	+ 4
1973 ..	398,665	507,689	1,379	907,733	- 4
1974 ..	427,394	610,399	2,236	1,040,029	+ 15
1975 3/.	380,503	564,710	1,969	947,182	- 9

1/Excludes liming materials. 2/Excludes materials used in commercial mixtures. 3/Preliminary.

Mixed fertilizer used in Wisconsin during the period ending June 30, 1975 totaled 380,503 tons. Mixtures accounted for 40 percent of the total fertilizer tonnage in 1974-75, about the same as a year earlier. The use of direct application primary nutrient materials declined 7 percent after having increased 20 percent in the previous year. Primary nutrient (N, P₂O₅, and K₂O) usage totaled 564,710 tons in 1974-75. Secondary and micro-nutrient materials reported for direct application amounted to 1,969 tons, down 12 percent from 1973-74.

Primary Plant Nutrients, Consumption by Kind of Fertilizer
Wisconsin, Years ended June 30, 1970-75

Year	N	Available P ₂ O ₅	K ₂ O	Total	
				Quantity	Change from previous year
	Tons				Percent
	Mixtures				
1970	34,182	95,927	69,739	199,848	— 4
1971	39,294	108,327	70,552	218,173	+ 9
1972	40,825	108,965	67,364	217,154	n. c.
1973	41,287	109,611	63,326	214,224	— 1
1974	45,164	117,315	66,191	228,670	+ 7
1975 1/. . .	41,855	108,063	53,270	203,189	— 11
	Mixtures and direct-application materials				
1970	115,130	120,100	197,681	432,911	+ 2
1971	122,518	133,337	211,543	467,398	+ 8
1972	129,089	135,847	227,647	492,583	+ 5
1973	116,673	132,189	228,493	477,356	— 3
1974	140,014	139,671	271,321	551,006	+ 15
1975 1/. . .	132,964	130,639	236,391	499,995	— 9

1/Preliminary.

OCTOBER FEEDER PIG PRICE RECORD HIGH

Feeder pig prices in Wisconsin continued to increase and during the October quarter averaged a record high of \$49.40 for a feeder pig weighing 41 pounds. This was a gain of \$9.60 from July and the fifth consecutive quarter of higher feeder pig prices. A year ago in October the feeder pig price averaged only \$18.20 per head.

Wisconsin Feeder Pig Prices and Weights 1/

Year	January	April	July	October
Dollars per head				
1965	10.50	12.10	13.00	15.15
1966	20.65	20.00	16.60	16.30
1967	14.50	14.75	15.20	14.90
1968	13.70	15.40	15.10	15.20
1969	14.00	16.40	17.80	19.00
1970	21.50	24.50	18.80	12.60
1971	9.35	12.05	12.80	14.30
1972	18.50	21.70	23.30	23.50
1973	24.80	30.90	34.50	32.10
1974	30.70	27.60	17.20	18.20
1975	23.60	37.30	39.80	49.40
Pounds per head				
1965	42	40	40	40
1966	41	40	40	41
1967	42	41	41	41
1968	42	40	41	41
1969	41	41	41	41
1970	41	39	40	40
1971	41	40	40	41
1972	41	40	40	40
1973	41	40	40	40
1974	40	39	40	41
1975	41	41	40	41

1/Prices paid by farmers and weights are average for the month as reported by Wisconsin Crop Correspondents.

BEEF PRODUCTION UP BUT PORK OUTPUT DOWN

Production of beef in Wisconsin during September was 9 percent above a year ago but output of pork was down 10 percent. There were 124,000 cattle slaughtered in Wisconsin during September, up 14,000 from the previous year. The average liveweight of cattle butchered in September was 1,037 pounds, 36 pounds lighter than last year.

Hog slaughter for September numbered 253,000, down 37,000 from a year earlier. Hogs averaged 246 pounds live-

weight, a gain of 8 pounds from September 1974.

The 33,000 calves slaughtered in September were 7,500 more than the previous year. Calves averaged 145 pounds liveweight, up 2 pounds from a year ago. There were 700 sheep and lambs killed during September, the same as a year earlier.

Commercial Livestock Slaughter

Area	Number			Liveweight	
	September		Change from last year	September	
	1974	1975		1974	1975
	1,000 head		Percent	Million pounds	
Cattle					
Wisconsin	110.0	124.0	+ 13	118.0	128.6
United States 1/ . .	3,088.6	3,672.1	+ 19	3,128.3	3,576.8
Calves					
Wisconsin	25.5	33.0	+ 29	3.6	4.8
United States 1/ . .	285.8	514.6	+ 80	81.6	146.0
Hogs					
Wisconsin	290.0	253.0	− 13	69.0	62.2
United States 1/ . .	6,880.5	5,467.8	− 21	1,666.9	1,300.9
Sheep and lambs					
Wisconsin7	.7	n. c.	.067	.067
United States 1/ . .	869.6	785.4	− 10	88.6	81.5

1/Excludes Alaska.

BUTTER AND CHEESE STOCKS WELL BELOW LAST YEAR

Cold storage stocks of butter and cheese in the Nation at the end of October were well below a year ago. There were only 25½ million pounds of butter in cold storage on October 31, a decline of 69 percent from last year and a record low for that date. Government stocks of butter in cold storage amounted to 12 million pounds, down 45 percent from the previous year.

Cold Storage Stocks of Butter and Cheese

Commodity	Oct. 31, 1973	Oct. 31, 1974	Oct. 31, 1975	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
	UNITED STATES			
Butter	67,546	83,114	25,513	- 69
Cheese, American	301,136	440,648	328,551	- 25
Cheese, Swiss	15,581	12,530	12,226	- 2
Cheese, all other	54,332	58,880	50,117	- 15
Cheese, total	371,049	512,058	390,894	- 24
	WISCONSIN			
Butter	3,268	5,335	1,495	- 72
Cheese, American	177,107	244,651	180,766	- 26
	GOVERNMENT STOCKS*			
Butter	41,044	22,359	12,214	- 45
Cheese, American	359	1,178	4,741	+ 302

*Included in above totals.

Manufacturers' Stocks of Other Dairy Products United States

Commodity	Sept. 30, 1973	Sept. 30, 1974	Sept. 30, 1975	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds			Percent
Dried whole milk	7,321	10,791	6,196	- 43
Dried skim milk	87,540	169,866	53,427	- 69
Dried buttermilk	4,646	7,260	1,972	- 73
Condensed milk and evaporated milk (case goods) 1/ .	95,576	153,537	96,608	- 37

1/Combined to avoid disclosing individual plant operations.

Stocks of cheese in cold storage at the end of October were 24 percent less than a year ago. American cheese supplies were down a fourth, Swiss cheese declined 2 percent, and all other cheese was 15 percent under October 31, 1974.

MEAT STOCKS DOWN 21 PERCENT

Cold storage stocks of meat in the Nation at the end of October were 21 percent under a year earlier. Meat stocks have been below the previous year since October 1974. The supply of beef in cold storage on October 31 was 23 percent less than a year ago while pork stocks were down 19 percent.

Cold Storage Stocks of Meat United States

Commodity	Oct. 31, 1973	Oct. 31, 1974	Sept. 30, 1975	Oct. 31, 1975	Change from last year
	1,000 pounds				Percent
Beef					
Frozen	301,278	333,208	246,156	261,786	- 21
In cure and cured	14,020	17,142	8,771	8,657	- 49
Total	315,298	350,350	254,927	270,443	- 23
Pork:					
Frozen	208,602	256,266	174,250	202,348	- 21
In cooler	14,998	14,066	12,948	15,274	+ 9
Total	223,600	270,332	187,198	217,622	- 19
Other meats and meat products:					
Veal, frozen	9,029	12,059	7,894	8,934	- 26
Lamb and mutton, frozen .	15,517	14,894	10,699	10,932	- 27
Canned meats in cooler:					
Hams	65,574	56,021	46,478	48,942	- 13
Other meats	14,234	11,767	8,261	9,682	- 18
Total, all meats	643,252	715,423	515,457	566,555	- 21

CORN MOISTURE LOWEST ON RECORD

The average moisture content of corn as of mid-October was 25.7 percent. This was 9.2 percentage points below a year earlier and the lowest since records on corn moisture were started in 1965.

The corn moisture survey was conducted with the cooperation of crop-weather reporters who mailed in corn samples to be tested. There was less variation in the moisture content of the individual samples this year than a year ago. Moisture content of the samples returned varied from a low of 14.4 percent to a high of 41.7 percent. The 14.4 percent moisture was the lowest ever tested in the corn moisture survey. Corn in all areas of the State had lower moisture in 1975 than in 1974. The samples for each area averaged less than 30 percent moisture, the first time this ever occurred.

Average Corn Moisture by Districts Wisconsin, Mid-October 1969-75

District	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
	Percent moisture					
Northern 1/	31	33	40	29	40	28
West Central	27	30	32	30	29	23
Central	28	27	34	27	34	27
East Central	28	28	31	29	32	26
Southwest	27	26	34	30	39	25
South Central	26	27	30	28	38	27
Southeast	28	25	34	29	32	23
State Average	27.2	27.5	32.5	28.8	34.9	25.7
High	40.8	47.2	64.7	41.0	61.8	41.7
Low	17.6	17.2	19.0	19.2	16.5	14.4

1/Includes Northwest, North Central, and Northeast districts.

NOVEMBER CROP REPORT

Excellent harvesting weather this fall enabled Wisconsin farmers to complete nearly all of their crop harvest by mid-November except for a little corn. Yields and quality of corn for grain and soybeans this year were considerably better than last year when late planting, poorer growing weather, and early frosts cut production sharply. Production of corn for grain in 1975 is estimated at 202.1 million bushels, up 31 percent from 1974. The estimated yield of 86 bushels per acre for 1975 is 18 bushels higher than last year. Quality of the corn was very good due to low moisture content and high test weights. Soybean acreage was reduced substantially in 1975 but yields were up.

Wisconsin's 1975 tobacco production is estimated at 21.2 million pounds, an increase of 15 percent from 1974. Although the yield per acre may average a little less than last year, there were more acres of tobacco grown in 1975. Harvested acreage of all tobacco is estimated at 11,000 acres for 1975 compared with 9,400 acres in 1974.

The great harvesting weather this fall allowed potato digging to proceed rapidly and most growers were done by the end of October. Production of potatoes for 1975 is estimated at 14,140,000 hundredweight, an increase of 1 percent from the previous year as harvested acreage was up slightly and yields were comparable.

Near perfect harvesting weather permitted the cranberry harvest to be completed by November. Quality and color of the berries were reported to be quite good. Production of cranberries in Wisconsin for 1975 is estimated at 825,000 barrels, a decline of 5 percent from the record crop of

870,000 barrels in 1974.

Fall plowing was restricted in several areas by dry weather during September and October. Some rains in the first half of November improved plowing conditions but more moisture is needed before the ground freezes for winter.

Rainfall in Inches, by Districts, Wisconsin

Districts	Month of October			Since April 1		
	1974	1975	Normal	1974	1975	Normal
N. W.	1.5	1.3	2.1	21.2	23.1	24.8
N. C.	1.6	1.8	2.3	22.4	21.5	25.2
N. E.	1.4	1.2	2.2	22.5	19.8	23.1
W. C.	1.8	.8	2.2	19.7	27.3	24.2
C.	1.9	1.5	2.2	20.7	23.7	23.5
E. C.	1.7	.3	2.1	20.8	21.2	21.1
S. W.	2.4	.6	2.3	24.3	21.4	25.0
S. C.	2.6	.6	2.2	23.3	21.4	23.4
S. E.	2.3	.8	2.2	23.0	19.7	22.0

BEEF PRICES DOWN SLIGHTLY

Good grade fed steers weighing between 900-1100 pounds averaged \$42.55 a hundredweight at the St. Paul market during October, down 16 cents from the previous month but \$5.71 higher than October 1974. Utility cows at St. Paul averaged \$22.59 a hundredweight for October, a decline of 21 cents from September but \$1.80 more than last year.

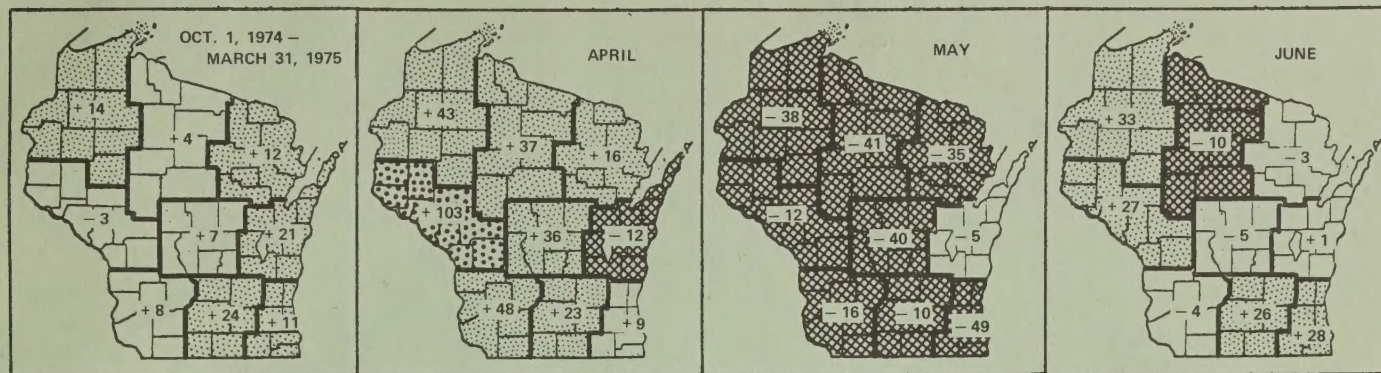
Good grade feeder steers weighing between 600-700 pounds averaged \$33.32 a hundredweight at the Kansas City market in October, 1 cent lower than a month earlier but \$6.29 above a year ago.

Crop Summary of Wisconsin for November 1, 1975

Crop	Acreage			Yield per acre			Unit	Production		
	1973	1974	1975 (prelimi- nary)	1973	1974	1975 (prelimi- nary)		1973	1974	1975 (prelimi- nary)
	Thousands							Thousands		
FIELD CROPS										
Corn for grain	2,090	2,270	2,350	83.0	68.0	86.0	Bu.	173,470	154,360	202,100
Oats	1,370	1,400	1,380	41.0	61.0	57.0	Bu.	56,170	85,400	78,660
Barley	21	19	32	37.0	47.0	50.0	Bu.	777	893	1,600
Rye	9	10	10	21.0	24.0	23.0	Bu.	189	240	230
Wheat (all)	27	78	86	33.0	36.6	36.0	Bu.	890	2,853	3,100
Winter	16	57	65	35.0	39.0	38.0	Bu.	560	2,223	2,470
Spring	11	21	21	30.0	30.0	30.0	Bu.	330	630	630
Soybeans for beans	241	217	205	25.0	20.0	23.0	Bu.	6,025	4,340	4,715
Potatoes (fall)	47.0	50.0	50.5	245	280	280	Cwt.	11,515	14,000	14,140
Tobacco (all)	10.2	9.4	11.0	1,859	1,965	1,926	Lb.	18,963	18,471	21,190
Type 54	4.9	4.7	5.6	1,950	2,060	2,000	Lb.	9,555	9,682	11,200
Type 55	5.3	4.7	5.4	1,775	1,870	1,850	Lb.	9,408	8,789	9,990
HAY AND FORAGE										
Hay (all)	3,950	3,950	4,000	2.69	2.68	2.66	Ton	10,622	10,600	10,650
Alfalfa and mixture	2,970	3,000	3,000	2.90	2.90	2.85	Ton	8,613	8,700	8,550
All other	980	950	1,000	2.05	2.00	2.10	Ton	2,009	1,900	2,100
VEGETABLE CROPS										
Carrots 1/	1.4	1.4	1.3	370	450	405	Cwt.	518	630	527
Cabbage 1/	2.3	3.1	2.5	280	320	330	Cwt.	644	992	825
Lettuce 1/	1.1	1.1	.9	250	200	120	Cwt.	275	220	108
Mint for oil	6.5	8.3	7.0	31	46	33	Cwt.	204	380	231
Onions, commercial	1.4	1.3	1.4	280	280	265	Cwt.	392	364	371
For processing:										
Green lima beans	7.4	5.3	7.8*	.93	.94	1.00	Ton 2/	6.9	5.0	7.8
Peas	123.2	129.8	140.0*	.99	1.33	1.10	Ton 2/	122.0	173.0	154.0
Snap beans	55.7	61.0	66.8*	2.47	2.55	2.40	Ton	137.6	156.0	160.3
Sweet corn	132.6	118.1	133.0*	3.85	3.83	3.80	Ton	510.5	452.3	505.4
Cucumber for pickles	10.4	11.4	9.4*	4.91	3.91	4.25	Ton	51.1	44.6	40.0
Beets for canning	6.6	8.1	8.1*	9.18	10.65	10.50	Ton	60.6	86.3	85.1
FRUITS, ETC.										
Apples, commercial	—	—	—	—	—	—	Lb.	50,000	65,000	64,000
Tart cherries	—	—	—	—	—	—	Ton	2.4	5.4	5.2
Cranberries	—	—	—	—	—	—	Bbl.	756	870	825
Strawberries	1.4	1.3	1.4	27	29	28	Cwt.	38	38	39

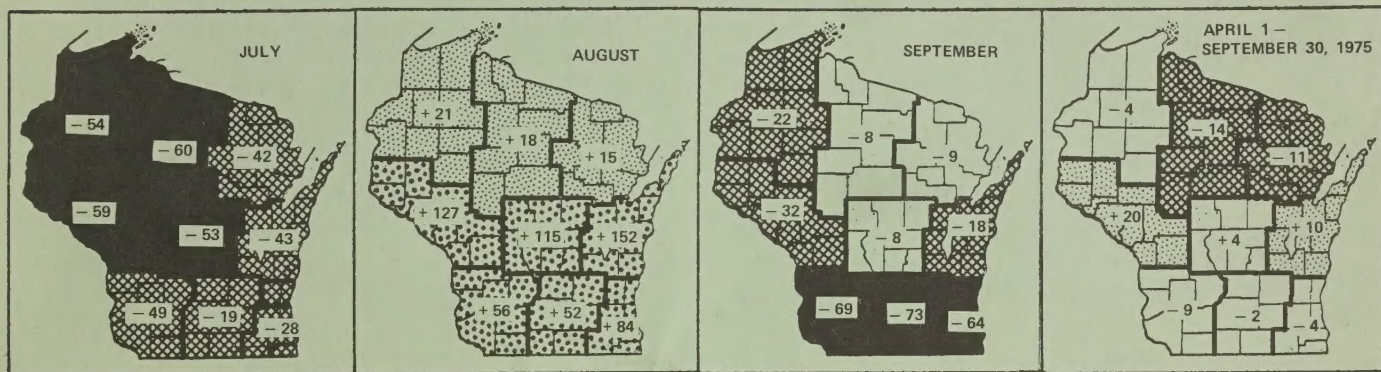
1/Summer quarter. 2/Shelled. *Harvested contract acreage.

Weather Record

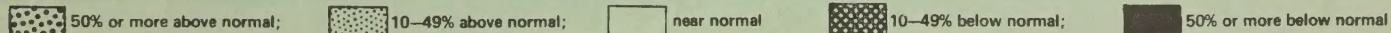


Fall and winter precipitation averaged 10 percent above normal. October was drier than usual and November had normal precipitation, but other winter months were above normal. Temperatures during winter were higher than normal from November through January. February was normal. Spring late arriving as March and April were wet and cold.

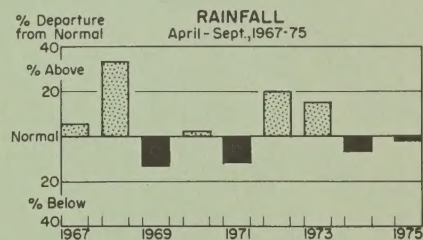
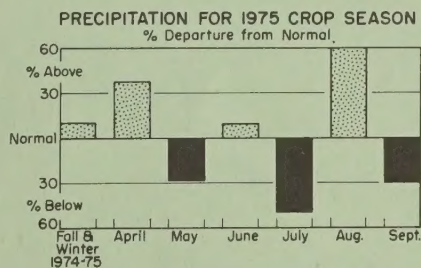
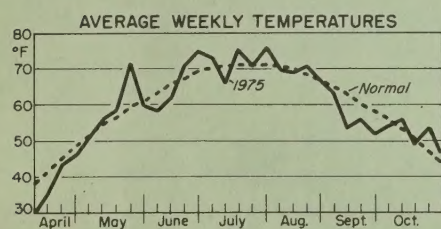
May was drier and much warmer. June was wet, with frequent showers. July turned hot and dry. August continued warm and dry until the second half when rainfall was extremely heavy. September was cool and dry.



Precipitation; average by crop districts:

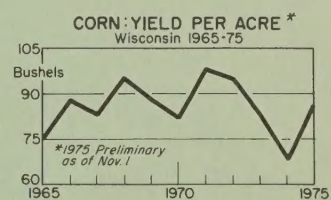
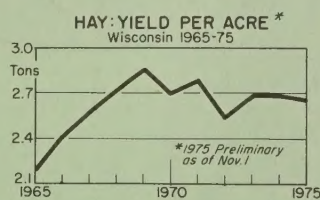
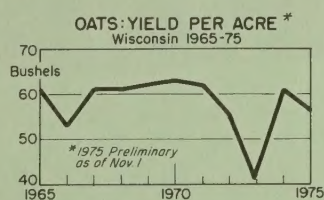
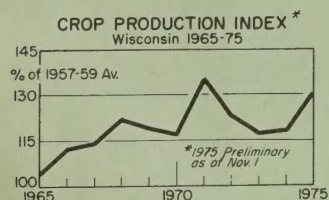


Figures show average percent above or below normal for crop districts.



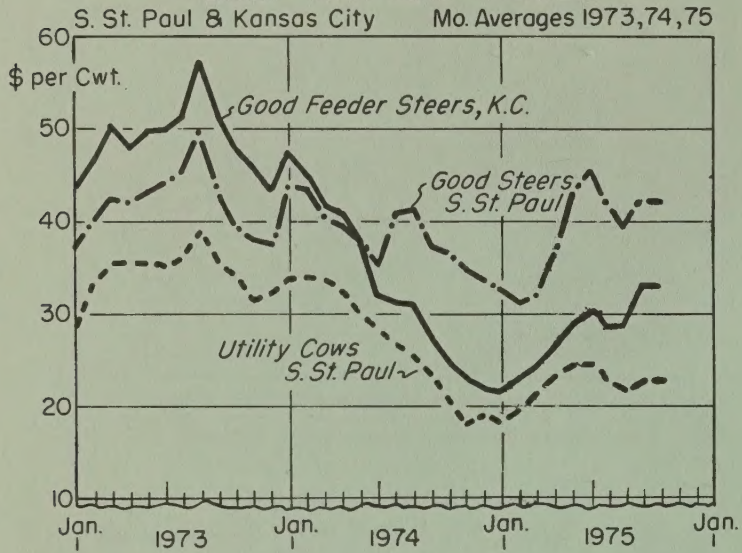
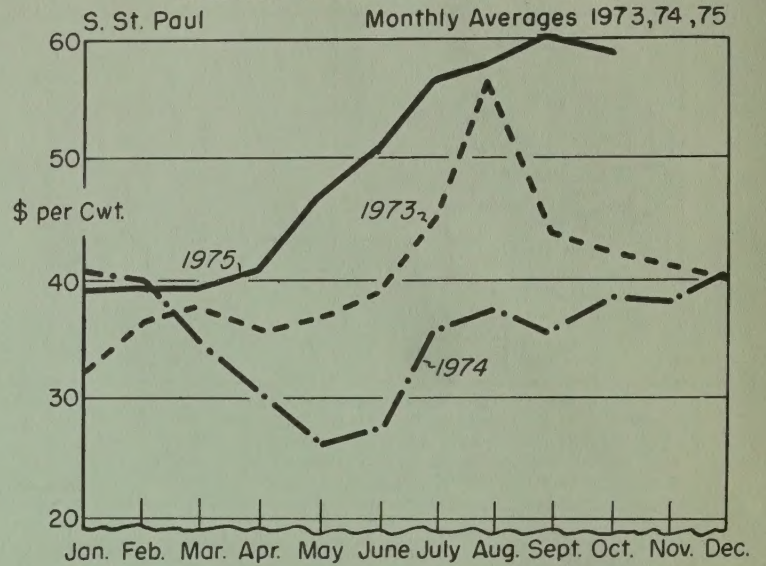
Temperatures during the growing season averaged below normal in April and September but were above from May through August. The last frost of spring occurred May 4 while the first frost of fall came on September 9 in the extreme north. A hard freeze occurred statewide on

October 2. Rainfall during the growing season averaged 2 percent below normal. April, June, and August were wet while May, July, and September were dry. Central area of State had above normal rainfall for growing season but other areas below.



The crop production index, at 130 percent of the 1957-59 average as of November 1, was 12 points above 1974 and second highest ever. Winter wheat and oat yields below last year. Hay yields close to 1974 as good late hay crops helped offset short second crop. Very good planting and growing weather early in season gave corn and soybeans a fast start. Hot, dry weather in July hurt crops on light soils. Fall harvesting

weather excellent. Corn and soybean yields much better than 1974. Tobacco acreage increased and very good curing weather produced sound crop. Fruit crops good as pollination weather favorable. Potatoes had good production and quality. Home gardens yielded well. Commercial vegetable crops varied, good where irrigated. Pea crop suffered from excessive heat and root rot.

BEEF CATTLE PRICES**BARROW and GILT PRICES****HOG MARKET DECLINES SHARPLY**

Prices of barrows and gilts at the St. Paul market declined sharply in the last half of October as prices at the end of the month were more than \$9.00 below what they were at the beginning. The October average of \$58.89 a hundred-weight was \$1.39 under September but \$20.22 above a year ago.

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